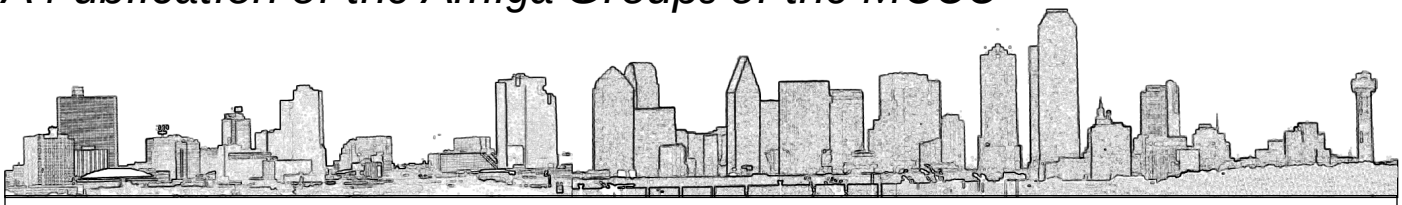
The AGM Connection

A Publication of the Amiga Groups of the MCCC



Fort Worth *February 2000* *Dallas*

Amiga and Tao-Group

A strategic alliance

Las Vegas, NV January 8, 2000 — Amiga begins expressing plans for the new Amiga with a strategic alliance with Tao-Group.

"Things started going wrong the moment the PC rode into town and the home computer revolution of the 1980s ground to a halt. We are here to right that wrong." said Bill McEwen, Amiga's El Presidente. "We kind of feel guilty about not having been around to show the world the evils of the PC, but inept management sent the Amiga off to a bad place. Luckily, its users and developers have kept it alive, and now we are back."

"Existing products are very rude." He continued. "Shoving PCI slots, interrupts, file systems, registries, megahertz, and megabytes right into your face. My grandmother just wants to play a game, or send an email, or draw a picture. She doesn't want to have to mortgage the house and get a masters degree."

"Digital Technology has become stalled because of the predominance of Windows." quiped in Fleecy Moss. "Putting a thousand monkeys on typewriters may eventually produce the works of Shakespeare but it's not something you're going to want to wait around for, and you don't want to be responsible for cleaning up the mess in the meantime."

"Our approach is outrageous. WE look at what actual people want, and then give them the most simple, elegant solution. Even calling it computing is falling into the PC trap. It is participation in the digital content universe, whether it be developing an application, playing a game, making your own video, watching TV or buying S&M gear online. Computing companies are trying to paint digital convergence as computers and TVs coming together, so they can stick "TV" in front of PC and continue to sell the same old garbage. Digital Convergence is something much bigger though. It is about content, information, services, and activity transforming into a digital format and coming together in a single place that has no boundaries. If someone tells you you need a PC to get into this new content universe, smile nicely and hit them with a big stick."

"Elegance, simplicity, invisible and universal technology." sings Bill McEwen, trying to get a word in edgeways. "That is why we are just giddy to be working with the Tao Group. Others rant on about how their products are next generation, warp capable, but the truth is that most of them are based upon old concepts and architectures — that's why you need the latest monster machine just to type letters. Chris Hinsley (CTO/Tao Group) was one of those smartass child prodigies you wanted to beat up at school. By age 20, he had already been a commercial games developer for 5 years, and wrote some great Amiga games. Being a smartass though, he saw the future, realised nothing out there was ready for it, and dedicated the last ten years of his life to making sure the human race was ready when the future arrived."

"The Amiga was special because it refused to settle for second best. If something is worth doing, it is worth doing right, and the proof of that is in the global following that it still has today. With the nightmare of the past five years behind us, the Amiga is ready to push out ahead again, and save the future from a muddled, poorly fitting, frustrating PC enema. With the foundation that the Tao Group gives us, we are ready to re-introduce the world to a novel computer concept — fun."

"We aren't stupid enough to think it's going to be easy," interrupts Fleecy Moss, shoving McEwen to the ground and gagging him. "A lot of people have been brainwashed by the advertisements and the slick salespeople. However, the digital information revolution is all around us, waiting to happen. Everyone can feel it, everyone wants to be a part of it. Amiga is going to stick a pretty big bomb under that PC logjam and blow it clean back to Redmond. Elegance, simplicity, invisible and universal technology. Time to start smiling again."

"We are happier than a crocodile at a waterpark to be working with Amiga." said Francis Charig, CEO and international stud. "We are very proud of what we have

created in our garden shed. We could have sold out long ago, but the market was crowded with companies doing that so we decided to actual create a product and make it a good one. Now we are finding that OEMs are seeing our product and getting even more excited about it than we are ourselves; it almost makes the whipping and torture we have had to inflict on our employees worthwhile. An Amiga solution powered by Tao technology is a match made in heaven for everyone."

BBS Closes

A victim of Y2K and the Internet

Bet you thought the year 2000 arrived smoothly didn't you? Well, for the most part, it did. But there was at least one victim — the MCCC BBS. The software that the BBS was running on had several bugs that showed up after the first of the year. They rendered several important functions — like searching for new files — inoperable. But even worse, the bugs made the BBS unstable. Our first hard drive crash took a couple of hours to recover from... and even then left us with no user files. The second crash forced a quick decision to shut it down. The decision was based on the facts that:

- *The BBS software hasn't been upgraded in about a year and a half — a victim of apathy in this new world of the Internet — so the bugs were there to stay.*
- *The use of the BBS has fallen to very low levels due to reduced need and declining club membership.*
- *The effort of installing new software far outweighed any benefit.*

Refunds will be made in the form of extended AGM memberships — one month for two.
...Bill Raecke

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http://www.startext.com/np/agm/

February Calendar

Feb 8 — Amiga By-The-Loop Chapter
7:30 pm — N.Richland Hills Community Ctr.
Loop 820 at Rufe Snow, N.Richland Hills

Feb 8 — MCCC Board of Director's Meeting
Approx. 10:00 pm — TGI Friday's
Loop 820 & Bedford Euless Road

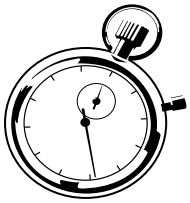
Feb 17 — Amiga North Dallas Chapter
7:30 pm — SMU Building
Collins Blvd. & International Pkwy, Richardson

Feb 26 — Newsletter Deadline — 7:00 am

Membership Watch

Expired January, 2000

Mark Stodola



When I die, I want to go peacefully in my sleep, like my Grandfather — not screaming, like the passengers in his car.